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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

3000 7590 04/04/2011  
CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN,  
COHEN & POKOTILOV, LTD.  
11TH FLOOR, SEVEN PENN CENTER  
1635 MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103-2212

EXAMINER

ALI, MOHAMMAD M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3784

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/532,017

04/20/2005

Gunter Fuhr

B1180/20035

5994

TITLE OF INVENTION: LOW-TEMPERATURE STORAGE OF SUSPENSION SAMPLES IN SUSPENDED SAMPLE CHAMBERS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$755	\$300	\$0	\$1055	07/05/2011

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.**

**THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.**

### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

#### I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE  
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**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

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## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/532,017 04/20/2005 Gunter Fuhr B1180/20035 5994

TITLE OF INVENTION: LOW-TEMPERATURE STORAGE OF SUSPENSION SAMPLES IN SUSPENDED SAMPLE CHAMBERS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional YES \$755 \$300 \$0 \$1055 07/05/2011

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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ALI, MOHAMMAD M 3784 062-064000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee  
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.  
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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10/532,017	04/20/2005	Gunter Fuhr	B1180/20035	5994

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EXAMINER
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ALI, MOHAMMAD M

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DATE MAILED: 04/04/2011

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 681 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 681 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

## Privacy Act Statement

**The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/532,017	FUHR ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	MOHAMMAD ALI	3784	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the telephone discussion of 02/04/11 proposed amendment received on 02/07/11.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.

**Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/17/05.</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date ____.</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.</li> </ol> |
|--|---|

/MOHAMMAD ALI/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3784

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Crnelison on 02/04/11 and 12/28/10 and which basis Michael faxed final proposed amendment on 02/07/11.

The application has been amended as follows: The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A cryostorage device comprising:

at least one data storage device including at least one data storage adapted to store a plurality of data, and

at least one sample receptacle device with ~~at least one~~ a plurality of sample chambers for the

uptake of a suspension sample, the at least one sample chamber being directly attached to

the at least one data storage device and having an elongated, hollow shape that extends

from an inlet end over a predetermined length to an outlet end, the plurality of ~~at least one~~ sample

chambers having exterior walls being made of an inherently flexible and bendable

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material and being connected to each other along a portion of the sample chambers,  
~~and the plurality of at least one~~ sample chambers being attached to the at least one  
data storage device in a flexible and movably hanging manner.

2. (Currently amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at~~  
~~least~~

~~one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers is a hollow cylinder, a hollow cone, a  
pipe, a tube, or a hollow  
needle.

3. (Currently amended) The cryostorage device according claim 1, wherein the ~~at least~~  
~~one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers consists of a flexible, bendable  
material.

4. (Currently amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein the ~~at~~  
~~least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers is provided with at least one of  
a sensor, a temperature sensor, and cooling surfaces.

5. (Previously Presented) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein the at  
least one data storage device comprises at least one data storage with a housing, the  
housing being connected with the at least one sample receptacle device.

6. (Currently amended ) The cryostorage device according to claim 5, wherein the at  
least one data storage device comprises a multiplicity of data storages that are attached  
along the length of the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers.

7. (Currently amended) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein a cross-  
sectional dimension of the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers

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varies along a length of the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers, so that at least one sub-chamber with a cross-sectional dimension that is larger than cross-sectional dimensions of the inlet and outlet openings is provided.

8. (Previously Presented) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein the at least one sample receptacle device comprises a plurality of sample chambers connected with one another at their exterior walls, so that an integral, flexible sample chamber block is provided.

9. (Previously Presented) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein a labeling device is provided that comprises at least one of a labeling layer on the at least one data storage device and labeling elements placed on the at least one sample receptacle device.

10. (Currently presented) The cryostorage device according to claim 1, wherein an attachment device is provided, with which the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers is attached to the at least one data storage device.

11. (Previously Presented) The cryostorage device according to claim 10, wherein the attachment device comprises strips arranged individually or as a bundle, each of the strips having a first and a second end with a sample chamber attached to the first end and the at least one data storage device attached to the second end.

12. (Currently amended) A method for storing at least one suspension sample in a low-temperature state, comprising the steps of: uptaking the at least one suspension sample in ~~at least one~~ plurality of sample chambers of a cryostorage device, the cryostorage device having at least one data storage device including at least one data storage



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adapted to store a plurality of data, and at least one sample receptacle device with ~~at least one~~ a plurality of sample chambers for the uptake of a suspension sample, the ~~at least one~~ plurality of sample chambers being directly attached to the at least one data storage device and having an elongated, hollow shape that extends from an inlet end over a predetermined length to an outlet end, the ~~at least one~~ plurality of sample chambers having exterior walls being made of an inherently flexible and bendable material and being connected to each other along a portion of the sample chambers, and the ~~at least one~~ plurality of sample chambers being attached to the at least one data storage device in a flexible and movably hanging manner; and transferring the at least one suspension sample into a low-temperature state by positioning at least a part of the cryostorage device in a cryo-medium.

13. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the uptaking comprises dipping the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers with an inlet end in a sample reservoir and transferring of the suspension sample as a result of a reduced pressure applied at a corresponding outlet end or of capillary forces.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein data that comprise the identification of the at least one suspension sample, measured data that were obtained from the suspension sample, reference data of reference samples, and behavior data about properties of the suspension sample during storage in the low-temperature state are stored in the at least one data storage device.

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15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein at least one partial sample is detached from the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers in the low-temperature state by mechanical separation.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 15, wherein during the mechanical separation a local heating of the respective sample chamber in a vicinity of the at least one partial sample that is to be separated or a separation at an attachment device between the respective sample chamber and the data storage device occurs.

17. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the inlet and outlet ends of the ~~at least one sample chamber~~ plurality of sample chambers is sealed by clamping, plugging, sealing, or a part of the at least one suspension sample.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the step of transferring the at least one suspension sample into a low-temperature state includes arranging the cryostorage device in an environment with a reduced temperature of less than - 100 o Celsius.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the step of transferring the at least one suspension sample into a low-temperature state includes arranging both the at least one data storage device and the at least one sample receptacle device in an environment with a reduced temperature of below -100°C.

20. (Currently amended) A cryostorage device comprising:  
at least one data storage device including at least one data storage adapted to store a plurality of data;<sub>1</sub> and at least one sample receptacle device with ~~at least one~~ plurality of sample chambers<sub>2</sub> for the uptake of a suspension sample, the at least one sample

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chamber being directly attached to the at least one data storage device and having an elongated, hollow shape that extends from an inlet end over a predetermined length to an outlet end, both the at least one sample receptacle device and the data storage device being adapted to be transferred to an environment with reduced temperature below minus 100° Celsius, the plurality of at least one sample chambers having exterior walls being made of an inherently flexible and bendable material and being connected to each other along a portion of the sample chambers, ~~and the plurality of at least one~~ sample chambers being attached to the at least one data storage device in a flexible and movably hanging manner.

21 (Previously presented) The cryostorage device according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one data storage is at least one data memory chip.

22 (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one data storage is at least one data memory chip.

23 (Previously presented) The cryostorage device according to Claim 20, wherein the at least one data storage is at least one data memory chip.

24 (Previously presented) The cryostorage device according to Claim 1, wherein the plurality of data includes a plurality of data bits.

25 (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, wherein the plurality of data includes a plurality of data bits.

26 (Previously presented) The cryostorage device according to Claim 20, wherein the plurality of data includes a plurality of data bits.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 12 and 20 are allowable because prior art of record fails to disclose or teach or suggest the recited plurality of sample chambers having exterior walls being made of an inherently flexible and bendable material and being connected to each other along a portion of the sample chambers. The non-elected withdrawn claims 21-26 being dependent on the allowable claims are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MOHAMMAD ALI whose telephone number is (571)272-4806. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8.30 am to 12 Noon and from 1 pm to 5.30 pm and on Friday from 6 am to 11.30 am and from 2.30 pm to 5 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jules Frantz can be reached on 571-272-6681. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/MOHAMMAD ALI/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3784